

REMARKS

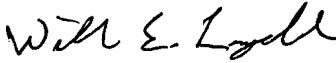
Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 10 and 11 will have been amended to correct minor informalities and to enhance the clarity of the claims. In particular, claim 10 has been amended to depend more properly from method claim 1, and device claim 11 now properly depends from device claim 7, instead of method claim 1, as originally recited in the claims presented on October 1, 2003.

Applicants submit that no subject matter has been added to the amended claims. Further, the amendments have not been made to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, and should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the present amendment in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 and return of the present application to allowance. Such action is respectfully requested and is believed to be appropriate and proper.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this Amendment or the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Noriaki YUKAWA et al.


----- William E. Lyddane
Reg. No. 41,568
Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

January 21, 2005
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191